

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 9, 1997

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—1997–98 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1396

Introduced by Assembly Member Bustamante

February 28, 1997

An act to add Chapter 15 (commencing with Section 18996) to Part 6 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to welfare reform.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1396, as amended, Bustamante. Welfare reform: food commodity programs.

Existing federal law provides for various food commodities programs, and the federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 revised those programs and requires the United States Secretary of Food and Agriculture to encourage each state receiving commodities under the federal programs to establish a state advisory board.

~~This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to establish an independent statewide advisory board to consider issues related to changes in federal commodities programs.~~

This bill would establish the Emergency Food Assistance Program (EFAP) Advisory Board, consisting of 18 members, appointed as provided. The bill would require the board to annually approve and review the state EFAP plan.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~ yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares that the federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (P.L. 104-193), provides for changes in United States Department of Agriculture commodities programs.

~~SEC. 2. In accordance with the recommendations of the federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act, it is the intent of the Legislature to establish an independent statewide advisory board to consider issues relating to those changes in the federal commodities programs.~~

SEC. 2. Chapter 15 (commencing with Section 18996) is added to Part 6 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, to read:

CHAPTER 15. EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
ADVISORY BOARD

18996. (a) The Emergency Food Assistance Program (EFAP) Advisory Board is hereby established. The board shall provide advice and assistance in the operation of the EFAP, and shall annually approve and review the state EFAP plan and any subsequent amendments submitted to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) by the state. Key components of the plan shall include program and operation, changes in recipient agencies to be served, criteria for determining agency eligibility to receive commodities and administrative funds, and the formulas to allocate food and administrative funds. The board shall provide input to the state on how program resources can be used in the most equitable, efficient, and effective manner.

(b) The board shall consist of 18 members, 10 to be appointed by the Governor, four to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules, and four to be appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly.

(c) The board shall elect a chairperson at the first meeting of each calendar year. The chairperson shall call

1 *and conduct a meeting at least twice each year, and may*
2 *call other meetings when appropriate.*

3 *(d) Members of the board are not entitled to*
4 *compensation for services, but are entitled to*
5 *reimbursement for travel expenses incurred in*
6 *connection with the performance of duties at the current*
7 *rates set by the state. Reimbursement shall be made part*
8 *of the annual EFAP administrative budget allocations.*

9 *(e) The EFAP Department Administrator shall*
10 *prepare and distribute to the board an annual report that*
11 *includes a financial statement and reflects allocation of*
12 *food and financial resources on a county-by-county basis.*
13 *The annual report shall be provided to the board 90 days*
14 *following the end of the federal fiscal year.*

15 *(f) The EFAP Department Administrator shall*
16 *provide to the board a proposed budget detailing how*
17 *funds will be allocated for food purchases and*
18 *administrative costs at least 90 days prior to the start of*
19 *each new federal fiscal year.*

